

Bishop's Gathering for Farnham Deanery

Celebrations and prayer requests

We give thanks for the leadership of Richard Bodle as Area Dean and are very grateful to representatives of the parishes in Farnham Deanery for submitting the following 'things to celebrate' and prayer requests for use at the Bishop's Gathering hosted by St Andrew's Church, Farnham on 18 June 2026.

Badshot Lea and Hale We give thanks for the ministry of Revd Lexi Russell and team.

Celebrations: Things have been incredibly busy across the parish over the last year. We launched Bubble Church in January, which has been brilliant and we are seeing more young families come through our doors. Our Friday Night Games group is also growing and attracting more young people to come and engage with us. The Clothing Giveaway is also growing and we are looking at opening it another time to help meet the demand we are currently facing.

Please pray for: our finances, which are tough, including boiler problems at more than one Church along with general Church building maintenance that urgently needs doing.

Bordon

We give thanks for the ministry of Revd Iain Robertson and team.

We celebrate: Our Community engagement through the Mental health project (now 3 years old) is going strong. Congregation in good spirits, with new members joining and a growing hunger for discipleship.

Please pray for more people to step up into leadership roles e.g. We are losing a very active couple who are a churchwarden and paid Community worker who are moving. Bordon as a whole.

Crondall and Ewshott

We give thanks for the ministry of Revd Tara Hellings and team.

Please pray for: our ongoing Omega Course meetings which continue to encourage the wider community to explore Christianity and the Bible; for deeper commitment from our young families; for all the engagement activities we have with young people and schools to spread gospel excitement; for new creative ways of reaching out into our community to help folk to grow in faith, and encourage others; for new lay leaders to find the confidence to step up and lead others. Thank you!

Farnham

We give thanks for the ministry of Revd David Uffindell and team.

Celebrations: we are delighted to have been awarded a Grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund for our Routes and Ringers Project. We are very excited to have 5 people training on the FiM programme and one ordinand, coming to the end of her first year of training. We have been greatly blessed by two "Time for God" volunteers from Columbia, South America.

Please pray for: our plans for Stage 1 of our project: the recruiting of key members of the team, new members of the congregation taking on new responsibilities and for our work with Children and Families: small numbers, but very positive signs of growth.

Frensham

We give thanks for the ministry of Revd Jane Walker and team.

We celebrate: Jane's partial recovery from a back complaint and the ministry of our wardens, Jon Savage and Rosemary Faun, during her absence. Please pray for Jane's full recovery and for our finances as we work to increase giving.

Grayshott

We give thanks for the ministry of Revd Jeremy Haswell and team.

Celebrations: We have one person graduating from the FiM programme who we have seen grow in confidence, whose greatest help came from the small group fellowship, and another who is signed up for next year. Youth work is going well, and we have seen a number of young people arrive to seek God.

Please pray for: our outreach and growing in the Village, but also that our connection with the School which is good will continue to grow. I think we are all praying for revival, and for growth in spiritual maturity, particularly through the development of Homegroups.

Headley All Saints

We give thanks for the ministry of Revd Yann Dubreuil and team.

Celebrations: lay leadership growing in training, number and participation: with our Community Chaplain having completed FiM course; Anna Chaplain establishing herself including taking referrals from local GP surgery; also newly qualified Lay Pastoral visitor exploring call to ordination; four lay preachers giving talks at our main Sunday services. Another individual booked to start their FiM journey in September. Contemporary service now going from once to twice a month. Establishing of weekly Mum and Toddler group. Regular lay led Advent and Lent courses. New Sunday School now operating. Great success of **24 hour prayer day** marked by almost tangible difference felt in the Sunday service that followed - and now planning 24/7 prayer event for next year.

Please pray for: Establishment and growth of new initiatives, More lay leaders to come forward for training, Growth of Sunday school and Finances to resource mission.

Hindhead We give thanks for the ministry of the Revd Richard Bodle and team.

Celebrations: Growing baby and toddler group, and our expanding work with children, young people and families, 'Lego Church' services and the new 'Lego Bible Club' in the local school, Ministry to seniors, including our popular 'Bereavement Café' and 'Hymns We Love' Course and developments to make our buildings more eco-friendly, giving thanks for recently received grants to renew our lighting.

Please pray for: Our 'Festival of Joy', which runs between 29th-31st July with lots of events and activities for all ages, The 'Deep Sea Divers' Children's Club as part of the summer festival, a new Children and Families Worker, after Karen leaves in August, someone to oversee our growing seniors' ministry, financial challenges as costs rise and givers' circumstances change.

Churt

We give thanks for the ministry of Revd Helen Hancock, Associate Minister and Focal Minister for this parish.

Celebrations: Encouraged by Pearl Lim's enthusiasm for the FiM course and her future ministry. Wedding ministry. Increased attendance and links with the Village. **Please pray for:** wisdom about how to develop Family Forest Church, increased reach to families and young people, Growing Old Grace-fully course to run over the summer.

Rowledge

We give thanks for the ministry of Revd Steve Green and team.

Celebrations: Significant growth in children's work during the week with x 50 children coming to church youth clubs every week and growth of children in the Sunday congregation as well.

Please pray for: Sharing your faith course at end of June, Holiday club in July (years 1-5), New Youth club starting in November. (years 7-10).

The Bourne We give thanks for the ministry of Revd Sandy Clarke and team.

Celebrations: God has blessed us with two Families Ministers - a job share - in the last year and has been leading them to meet new families using St Martin's by the green, to start a new Families Service, to begin a young training choir and to foster a sense of welcome by making church more accessible to families.

Please pray for: Wrecclesham and The Bourne Parishes have created a new fulltime clerical post which combines the leadership of St Peter's Wrecclesham with families ministry and intergenerational worship focusing on our shared area of relative deprivation where Brambleton Hall is situated. Bless The Bourne Show on 4 July as we seek to participate more fully in the community and our Pet Service on 5 July in The Bourne Show Marquee on the green. Let us be led by God in our ministry through coffee mornings and our choir bringing Evensong on Tour across our deanery. Grow our ministry team through lay and ordained vocations.

Tilford

We give thanks for the ministry of Revd Ben Cahill-Nicholls and team.

Celebrations: God is truly up to amazing things in Tilford, and we all feel privileged to be part of it. In the past two years, the congregation has grown significantly, from an ASA of 20 to over 50. Most of that growth has been children and families, and we are now providing dedicated children's ministry every week, either in all-together services, or through Sunday Club. Our PCC has grown with several new members, and we are far better engaged with the wider village than we have been for some time. This year, we expect to have at least 8 Baptisms, had a first adult confirmation for a few years, and will be repeating several

popular, new services including our Outdoor Nativity which last year had over 300 attendees (in a village of 800).

Please pray for: As in many small, rural parishes, a dedicated and hardworking team of volunteers leads almost everything and, while that team is growing, we still need more people to take on roles. Our extraordinary Churchwarden will step down next year, and we pray for the right successors. We pray, also, for a larger team of children's leaders, so that we can continue to nurture the faith of our youngest worshippers, and for more musicians to come forward and join our relaunched choir and worship band. Finally, we pray that the Holy Spirit might continue to inspire, energise and equip us for the growth we have experienced, which is joyful but can sometimes feel both overwhelming and fragile. And we're keen to learn from other village parishes which have been on this journey.

Wrecclesham

We give thanks for Gerald (Churchwarden) and all those who are stepping up during the current vacancy. Please pray for the preparation for advertising and the successful recruitment of a new Priest-in-Charge, who will also be Associate Minister for Families at the Bourne.

Celebrations: The growing number of young men arriving in church has led to the formation of a Christianity Explored group that meets regularly for Bible, beer and pizza. Our LLM has just been accepted for ordination, one of our sisters has just finished FIM and another sister is about to start her second year. People who have never served before are stepping forwards to serve.

Please pray for: We are revisiting what our work with children looks like and hope to relaunch the Sunday school in September- pray for its success, direction and growth. We are considering how we confront loneliness and social isolation (particularly with more senior people) within our parish and are have to decide whether we redevelop a current ministry or create a new ministry to work into this issue- pray for direction, volunteers and the procurement of funds. We are blessed with a beautiful Church building but major maintenance work does need to be carried out- please pray for the funds to be raised.

Youth Catalyst Team – support for your parish

Celebrations: We have just finished running our 3rd cohort of our launchpad course where we have seen clergy from this deanery attend in the hope of launching a fresh youth ministry and have supported a joint churches youth worship night back in 2025. **Please pray:** Please pray we can partner with churches to host a **Farnham deanery youth worship gathering**.

The Youth Catalyst Team would love to serve your church. Do get in contact if you need any youth ministry support, from establishing a youth ministry to training your team, and check out some of the diocesan or more local events that are for your young people. Please contact sophie.blake@cofeguildford.org.uk for more information.

Bishop's Prayer Network



Thank you for praying with us this evening. Bishop Paul warmly invites you to join the Prayer Network he is establishing to support a renewed diocese-wide commitment to pray. Please enter your name, email and parish at the address below or scan the QR code, ideally this evening, to receive prayer bulletins.

cofeguildford.org.uk/prayernetwork